Star Wars: The Future is Never Set

by BFTMC

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Amidala

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Summary: A galaxy in turmoil! With the Republic so close, yet so far, from victory, drastic measures must be taken. As the Separatists and Republic continuously but heads. After learning of the Chancellor's betrayal, and his true identity, the Jedi move to apprehend him. Anakin is left with a choice, that may change the galaxy as they know it.

1. Chapter 1 - A Deciding Chapter

The cry of the engine filled Anakin's ears as he pushed his civilian speeder to it's limits. The small, yellow speeder skidded along anything that came in his way as he sped to the office of the Chancellor. He was going there to do the force knows what, but he had to get there. After all, this whole situation was his fault. His arrogant, selfish fault. In the last few months, he had been ordered by the Jedi order to keep an eye on the Chancellor of the Republic, Palpatine. Little did the council, or Anakin, know that the Chancellor everyone had trusted to lead them for this whole war really the puppet master controlling the whole thing. That man was no regular man, as he had told Anakin mere hours ago. The man told Anakin something so shocking, that he could barely make it to the temple. What the Chancellor told him was that he was, first, the puppet master of this war, and the second, he was the Sith Lord that the Jedi had been searching for for so long. Anakin knew not how to react to this news, so he left in a hurry, finding Master Windu. He told the Jedi Master the information, who left with a few more Jedi to apprehend the traitorous Sith. After they were missing for a solid hour, Anakin realized something must have gone wrong. He left the temple in a hurry, took his personal speeder and now was currently speeding towards the office. He prayed he wasn't too late...

- Chancellor Palpatine's Office -

The Jedi and Sith Lord broke apart, spinning a few paces away from

each other. Palpatine held a saber in one of his hands, baring his teeth in anger. Mace Windu tooka deep breathe, closing his eyes. He then raised the saber, glaring at the Chancellor through the purple hue of the saber.

"Surrender, Chancellor, there is no hope!" Windu yelled, pointing his saber at the Chancellor. Palpatine did not respond, just narrowed his crazed eyes. He snarled, spinning at the Jedi Master

- Outside The Office -

Anakin ran through the hall, leaving the elevator up to the office behind. Two guards stood at the door of Chancellor's Office, dressed in the red robes of the Chancellor Guard.

"General Jedi, the Chancellor is currently busy at the moment, you will have to-" Anankin interrupted him, coming to a screeching halt.

"Move aside, trooper! The Jedi Master, Mace Windu, and the Chancellor are in danger!" Both guards shared glances, before looking back to Anakin.

"Sir, that is not possible, we have been here the whole time, and no one has entered the room-" The guard was cut off by the loud screech of metal being cut apart, and the sound of a saber clattering to the ground.

"What the..." One guard murmured, taking his attention off of Anakin. The Jedi focused the force around him, pushing either guard away, both of them slamming into the walls on either side of the hallway. Both of them fell limp, but he didn't check to see if they were alive. The Jedi burst into the room, looking around.

The first thing he noticed was the bodies on the ground. The three Jedi that had come with Mace Windu were lying, dead, in front of the ornate door, their blood soaking into the blue light carpet. The signs of battle shown all across the room, still burning saber marks showing all over the place. The last thing he saw was on the far side of the room, next to the shattered window. Mace Windu held his Light saber on the chancellor. Both parties were spent and exhausted, panting, but determined. Mace Windu moved to finish the murderous Chancellor. Anakin ran over, his saber's hilt in hand.

"Windu, no!" He called, the Jedi Master stopping mid swing.

"Anakin? Why are you here?!" The Chancellor spoke up before Anakin could respond.

"Anakin, help me! The Jedi are trying to over throw the government and take the power for themselves!" mace looked at Palpatine looked at the Chancellor in disbelief.

"What?! Anakin, don't listen to him! The Sith are evil!" Anakin looked from one to the other, still unsure of what to do.

"Anakin, think of your visions! â€| Think of your wife!" Palpatine cried, pleaded, with his friend. Mace looked to Anakin with surprise.

- "Your wife...?" Anakin ignored his questioning tone.
- "You can't kill him, Master Windu, not yet. He must face trial in front of the senate!" Mace Windu let his anger and annoyance show for a moment.
- "Anakin, he will escape and continue to control and wage this war. We must eliminate him and save countless lives!" Palpatine growled, glaring at Windu.
- "No, no! YOU shall die!" Anakin jumped back as bolts of lightning flew from Palpatine's fingers. Mace brought his saber up, blocking the bolts. Anakin watched with surprise, unable to act, even with the saber in his hands. The bolts went back, withering the Sith. Palpatine slowly looked to Anakin.
- "Anakin... please... save me..." He pleaded as his own bolts killed him. Anakin looked from Mace to Palpatine, and back, still unsure of what to do.
- >"Anakin, help me destroy this evil... creature! Before he kills more people!" Mace yelled over the crackling of the electricity. Anakin looked to his dying friend. He squeezed his eyes shut. His hand shaking, he ignited the saber, diving forward and swinging. Mace stumbled back, dropping the saber. He gave a shaky sigh, falling to his knees. Palpatine's hands fell to the ground, his gasps of breath filling the now quiet room. His handless arms fell to his side, smoking from electricity and the burning wrists. Mace rose back to his feet as Anakin brought his hands to his face. He grabbed Anakin's shoulder, trying to catch his breathe.
- "End it, Anakin." Anakin dropped his arms, his saber falling from his hand, tears rolling down his face, his eyes red and puffy.
- "I... can't... he... he's my friend..." Mace sighed, crouching to pick up Anakin's dropped saber. He placed it in the young knight's hand.
- "Anakin, he has done nothing but lie and betray you. He lead you, and countless other Jedi, through countless perils, getting many of them killed. Friends, Anakin, real friends that you fought beside. That we BOTH fought beside." Anakin let his gaze fall on the injured Chancellor, who was looking at Anakin with barely conscious eyes.
- "We can't... he must see trail..." Anakin said without any feeling. Mace looked at him with pity, but still grabbed Anakin's arm. He lifted it up, hitting the button.
- "Anakin, think of the lives this will save, how many planets, nations, and species this will save." Anakin looked at the saber, then at Palpatine. He walked forward slowly, aiming it at Palpatine's chest. He stopped, looking at Windu. Windu had taken a seat in the chancellor's seat. Mace nodded, and Anakin looked to the pitiful figure of Palpatine. He drew the saber back, closed his eyes, and drove it forward.
 - 2. Chapter 2 A Republic in Confusion
- Jedi Temple : Council Chambers -

- The four towers of the Jedi temple glowed with lights, much like the rest of the city planet of Coruscant. Inside the council chambers, many Jedi Masters sat around the edges of the room. While most of them were present, a few, like Ki-Adi-Mundi and Obi-Wan Kenobi were busy with battle on far away planets. The ones that were there all sat, thoughtfully, discussing the recent turn of events.
- "We must tell the senate of the Chancellor's betrayal, before the Separatists and Grievous learns of this... incident." Shaak-Ti said from her seat, the hologram projecting from Kamino. Many of the other Masters murmured their agreement.
- "There is another thing that must be dealt with, first." Mace Windu said, all eyes now on Anakin.
- "Commendable, your actions were against Palpatine," Yoda said wistfully, "Unfortunate, it is, new information, come up it has."
- "It has come to our attention from master Windu's report that you are, as of now, having an affair, and MARRIED to Senator Padme Amidala? Is this correct?" Master Adi Gallia asked, leaning forwards in her seat, folding her hands. Anakin remained silent for just a moment.
- "That is true..." He confirmed.
- "When did this happen?" She continued. Anakin gave a small sigh, dipping his head.
- "Shortly after the first battle of Geonosis. We... we got married on her home world of Naboo."
- "So you were still a padawan?!" Exclaimed Master Stass Allie.
- "That is... true, master." Yoda made a low noise as narrowed his eyes, looking at nothing in particular.
- "Dark, the future is, but time, there is not. Remain in the order, Young Skywalker-" Anakin interrupted him.
- "Master Yoda, I..." His voice faltered for a moment, "... I wish to leave the order." For a moment, Anakin's words were followed with silence. The silence lasted for a meager five seconds, before the room exploded with voices. Questions and accusations were hurled at the young knight, he stepped back a few paces in surprise. Master Windu rose to his feet, calling for order.
- "Everyone, let the Skywalker explain himself!" Windu barked, everyone's voices dropping quickly. Mace gave one last glare around the room, before giving a wave to Anakin.
- "Proceed." Anakin took a deep breath, think through what he was going to say.
- "... Masters, for the last three years, I have been fighting tirelessly in this war, trying to kindle a relationship, and remain loyal in the council. It has been taxing, painful, and nearly drove me to the dark side. I will admit, I didn't know what I was going to

do when I got to Palpatine, thank the force I chose the path of light. That was to close for comfort, though. Palpatine was too close to destroying everything we believe in, and... I blame myself. I was blind to his manipulation, and I... no, WE nearly payed dearly. I can't risk that again, I just... can't. I am tired, so tired, masters. This last event has... it's just finished me. I killed Count Dooku, for him. I lied, for him. I nearly killed Master Windu, for him. I can; t risk that anymore. Padme and I have already set forth a plan, we are going to move to Naboo, where she will have her children-" Many of the masters gasped at this news, while other nodded slowly.

"That explains it..."

"I knew something seemed off with the senator, but I would have never guessed..."

"No, OUR children, there. I want to live my life with her, our children, and away from these accursed politics and battles. "That is why I am leaving. I am not asking for permission, I am merely stating the facts." He finished, letting his gaze sweep over the dumbfounded faces of the masters. He felt a certain amount of amusement at their reactions to his speech. He then decided that leaving, now, was the best of options at the moment. He merely removed his saber, set it on the ground, and walked to the elevator. He entered, the door closing behind him. As the elevator dropped, Mace rose to his feet. He walked tot he center of the room, grabbing the saber, saying nothing. No one else spoke, they didn't know how to react. Mace merely looked at it in his palm, his expression unreadable. Finally, one voice rose up.

"Hmm... Sad news, this is, but understandable it is." Grand Master Yoda said slowly, his gaze going to Windu.

"To the future, we must look, much like young Skywalker." Many of the Masters just looked to one another.

"Call all Masters here, we must, much to discuss, we have."

- Senate Chamber -
- "... Order, order! I will have order!" Mas Amedda yelled over the senators, but they, naturally, did not hear him, or chose not to listen. They were in an uproar over the news Master Windu had brought. The Jedi now stood on the Senatorial Pad of Senator Bail Organa. Amedda pounded his staff on the Chancellor Pad, which sounded a horribly loud noise around the room.
- >"ORDER, I SAY!" Amedda roared, the voices of the senators slowly quieting down. He let his piercing gaze go over the senators, before looking to Windu.

"Master Jedi, you may continue your recounting of the events." Mace Windu gave a respectful nod to the Vice Chair, before speaking to the whole senate.

"As I was saying, I dueled the Chancellor to a stand still, and held him at light saber point. I was about to finish his lies, when the door opened, and Jedi Knight Anakin Skywalker. He told me that we must spare the Chancellor-" The voices began to rise up again, but Amedda quickly silenced them with a pounding of his staff. Mace

continued.

"I didn't listen, which I regret. It is not the Jedi's way to kill, but exhaustion and anger had over taken me, and I wished to end this horrible war. In my lapse of attention, Palapatine launched bolts of electricity at me. I managed to block it, but just in time. Anakin Skywalker then saved me by chopping the Chancellor's hands off, and driving his blade through his heart. Skywalker then left the order this morning, claiming that he was so close to being corrupted by that evil man." Mace came to a finish, this time, he was greeted by silence. Amedda looked at a blinker on his panel, and looked out into the Senate.

"Senator Amidala, you have something to add?" The vice Chair queried, looking to the young senator. The pod flew over to join Organa's.

"Yes, I do." She turned to the Senate.
>"Senators and representatives! For years, Chancellor Palpatine served as the senator of Naboo, and under my rule. For years I trusted him, confided in him, and he betrayed that trust. I mostly blame myself for this occurrence, I should have noticed his evil, but, I also blame this Senate!" outraged cries filled the room, and it took many minutes for Amedda to silence them.

"What is the basis to these accusations?!" One senator cried. Padme looked at them all.

"Look at what has happened! WE, the Senate, voted a tyrant into office, who then locked us into procedures to keep us from actually getting anything done! We could have won this war, or at least come to a peaceful resolution, if it wasn't for him! We were blind, so busy in trying to keep ourselves in office that we didn't see his corruption! There was no one there to stop him, except for his upper officials and guards, the former is three people, who are easy to hide the truth from, and the latter are so ferociously loyal to the Chancellor's office, that they would have fought beside him!" She cried, anguish, pain, and a slight bit of anger, laced in her voice.

"What we need is a system of checks and balances so that this never happens again! I propose that we set up a system where the Chancellor must bounce ideas off of the Judicial branch and the senate! That way, they can't just make laws, regulations, and orders when ever they choose! Like wise with the other two branches! I have already sent the new abilities to each of you, please, read them, and vote." bail opened his pod's messages, seeing Padme did, indeed, send the file to everyone. Mace looked at it with him.

Democratic Proposal 4-20:

By: Senator Padme Amidala of Naboo

Mace skipped to the part where she began about the powers of each branch.

Chancellor's Office:

1. In the event that the Senate and Judicial Branch cannot come to a conclusion (agreement) the problem will be sent to the Chancellor's

Office to be reviewed, before re-released to the Senate.

- 1A. In the event that the Senate cannot agree on the issue, it will be sent to the Judicial Branch.
- 1B. In the event that the Judicial Branch cannot agree, it will be sent tot he Chancellor's Office to be reviewed and altered, before being sent back to the Senate.
- 1C. The Chancellor will not have new laws/loans/regulations/etc. Sent to them, it will instead be reviewed and altered by the acting Vice Chair.

Three new jobs will be added to the Chancellor's Office

- 1. The Speaker of the Judicial Branch
- 2. The Speaker of the Military
- 3. The Speaker of the Jedi Order

It then went on over the new abilities of the Senate. Mace began to feel a sense foreboding as he read on.

New Senatorial Seats

- 1. A Representative for the Republic Defense Council (R.D.C.)
- 2. A Representative for the Outer Rim Defense Council (O.R.D.C.)
- 3. A Representative for the Mid/Core (Rim) Defense Council(s)
 (M.R.D.C. & C.D.C.)
- 4. A Representative for the Jedi Order.

New Judicial Seats

- 1. A Representative for the Republic Defense Council (R.D.C.)
- 2. A Representative for the Outer Rim Defense Council (O.R.D.C.)
- 3. A Representative for the Mid/Core (Rim) Defense Council(s)
 (M.R.D.C. & C.D.C.)
- 4. A Representative for the Jedi Order.

Voices began to raise, questions being flung at the young Senator. She stood proud, a firm look on her face. Amedda pounded his staff on the pod, silence, once again, falling over the senators.

"Silence, let us hear her-"

- "If I may!" Mace exclaimed, rising to his feet. Amedda looked to Padme, who nodded. The Vice Chair gave a wave of his hand, and Mace began talking.
- "Senator, as flattered as we are that you wish to add us to the government, the Jedi can't! We cannot, and will not, get involved in the politics of the Republic!" Padme turned her now icy gaze on the Jedi.

- "Master Jedi, let me ask this, is the Jedi Order not part of the Republic?"
- "Yes, but I do not know what this has to do-"
- "Then, may I remind you, that you are obligated to stand by the Republic, through thick and thin! How can you do that if you refuse to become part of the Republic?!" Mace and Padme locked gazes, each of them seething with anger towards the other. Finally, mace dropped his head, sighing.
- "It is up tot he Senate to decide..." He murmured in a defeated manner. Amieda looked over the Senate, who had remained ghostly quiet.
- "Very well, let the voting begin!"
- Utapau -
- Two figures walked down a boardwalk. One was in Phase 2 Clone Armor, his helmet under his arm, the other was a Jedi in his robe.
- "I can; t believe they are making me go back to the temple when we were THIS close to catching Grievous!" Obi-Wan exclaimed with a large amount of exasperation. Cody gave a chuckle, shaking his head.
- "Ahh, don't worry, general. We'll catch that rust bucket for you, besides, Generals Plo Koon and Aayla Secura should be able to handle him if it comes to it." Obi-Wan cracked a smile as he made his way up the ramp of the shuttle. He truned to his trusted commander.
- "Don; t have too much fun without me, okay, Cody?" Cody saluted him.
- "Wouldn't dream of it, sir!"
- "When I return, you better have captured Grievous!"
- "Will do, sir!" Obi-Wan boarded the ship, which took off the a Venator, where his star fighter was waiting. Cody slipped his helmet back on, turning to the Clones gathered nearby.
- "What are you slackers doing?! Get back to work, we have to be ready for the generals' arrival!" he barked at them, the trooper scattering in a hurry.
- Aayla Secura's Flag Ship -
- the blue-skinned Jedi Knight paced on the bridge of her Venator, the hyper space tunnel flying past. She felt a flurry of emotions, which Master Plo Koon sensed.
- "You are worried." He stated, more a fact then a question. Aayla stopped to look at him.
- "Of course! The last time we fought, I nearly died! He fought five Jedi alone!" Plo gave a light chuckle.
- "In his current state? We'll be lucky if he raises a blade to fight

- us." Aayla gave a nervous chuckle as the Venator slowed to a stop. The were still a few parsecs away from the planet. It had to be a coordinated assault on the planet if it were to be successful. The Separatist fleet above Utapau was no pushover, run of the mill blockade, this was Grievous's fleet. A holocom activated, Obi-Wan appearring.
- "Ahh! How nice of you to join the party! I was just leaving! Any hints on what to expect at the temple?" Aayla and Plo shared glances.
- "They told us not to say." Plo said simply, Obi-Wan shrugged nonchalantly.
- "Oh well, it's probably something that has to do with Anakin. He's always getting into trouble... Anyways, don't get Cody killed, I still need him!" Aayla cracked a smile.
- "Don't worry, Master Kenobi, your Commander will be in one piece when you return." Obi-Wan dipped his head.
- "May the force with you two."
- "And with you." They responded, then the hologram cut out as Obi-Wan vanished.
- "... This will hit him hard." Aayla stated, looking to Plo. The Jedi Master nodded slowly.
- "Yes, but he will understand, he always does." Aayla clapped her hands together.
- "Anyways, we have a General to grab, Comamnder Bly!" The Clone Comamdner turned to her, standing at attention.

"Sir?"

- "Prepare the men, we will attack in 0500 hours." Bly nodded.
- "Yes, sir!" as he walked away, barking orders, Aayla turned to look out the window.
- "I sense trouble coming..." She murmured, half to herself. Plo Koon stroked the lower part of his mask.
- "As do I, let us hope it does not mean Grievous will escape..."
- "Again." Aayla added with a disgruntled sigh.

End file.